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by taxpayer money. Especially do I think a strong legal case can be made, because there are three funds here. Only two of them are available to students going to public schools. available to those Who will go to are these church-centered schools. They can go into all three. question of a legal and constitutional nature will be whether or not the state can set aside money exclusively for the use of these church-based schools, while allowing these church-based schools to go into the other two funds, but the public school students cannot go into this church-based fund. question of public policy. And when I make up in my mind that an issue has to be addressed, it means that I don't intend to just skate across the surface. When I say I'm going to talk to the ACLU, or I'm even going to hire a lawyer, it doesn't mean that I turn everything over to whomever it is that I talk to. my sense of responsibility in terms of research, evaluation, fact gathering. That will never be cast aside by When I look at the determined way that the representatives of these church schools have dug their heels in on this and other programs, it shows me how pernicious it is for a state to stumble, however gradually, into this notion of blurring the line that should separate church and state. Now, for my religious friends, I'm wondering how they can even accept the notion of their churches not paying taxes, especially since they claim to believe in Jesus. And here's why I say that, once again, basing it on research. Did Jesus actually exist? For the purposes of what I'm going to say here this morning, does it make any difference whether he existed as a physical, corporeal individual on this earth? It makes no difference. Some people came to Jesus when he was teaching, and they asked him, is it appropriate to pay taxes to And Jesus thought about it, because from the way government? he's portrayed, he was a thoughtful person, even though he was very young. He said, give me a coin. Whoever was there trusted him enough to put a coin in his hand. He held it up. He said, whose image and superscription do you see on this coin? And the people muttered among themselves. They said, well, Caesar. Jesus said, render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's, and unto God that which is God's.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.